WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A digital content-data distribution system comprising:

an order terminal for downloading digital content data in response to order placement made by a user for the digital content data via the order terminal, whether the ordered digital content data be downloaded when the user places an order or later being decided in accordance with a user request and/or capacity of a user memory for storing the ordered digital content data; and

a main server for transmitting the ordered digital content data when the user places an order or later in accordance with the decision.

2.   The digital content-data distribution system according to claim 1 further comprising a sub-terminal, the ordered digital content data being downloaded to the order terminal for downloading at the order placement whereas being downloaded to the order terminal or the sub-terminal for downloading later.

3.   The digital content-data distribution system according to claim 1, wherein the ordered digital content data is downloaded to the user memory at the order placement while digital content data already stored in the user memory is transferred to a memory of the main server when the user memory lacks capacity for the data to be downloaded.

4.   The digital content-data distribution system according to claim 1, wherein the ordered digital content data transmitted by the main server has several data formats, data formats reproducible by the order terminal only being displayed on the order terminal.

5.   The digital content-data distribution system according to claim 1, wherein a format of the ordered digital content data is decided in response to entry of a name of user player for reproducing the ordered digital content data.

6. The digital content-data distribution system according to claim 1, wherein the main server has a first transmitter for transmitting the ordered digital content data, the system further comprising a sub-server connected to the main server via a network and a sub-terminal to which the ordered digital content data is downloaded,

wherein the sub-server has a first receiver for receiving the digital content data transmitted by the first transmitter of the main server, a memory for storing the received digital content data and a second transmitter for transmitting the ordered digital content data to the sub-terminal; and

wherein the sub-terminal has a second receiver for receiving the ordered digital content data transmitted from the sub-server and a memory for storing the downloaded digital content data.

7. The digital content-data distribution system according to claim 1, wherein the main server has a first transmitter for transmitting user data, the system further comprising a sub-server connected to the main server via a network and a sub-terminal to which user data is downloaded,

wherein the sub-server has a first receiver for receiving the user data transmitted from the main server, a memory for storing the received user data and a second transmitter for transmitting the user data to the sub-terminal; and

wherein the sub-terminal has a second receiver for receiving the user data transmitted from the sub-server and a memory for storing the downloaded user data.

8. The digital content-data distribution system according to claim 1, wherein the main server has a processor for designating a place to which a storage medium storing the digital content data ordered from the order terminal to the main server and/or goods related to the ordered digital content data are/is to be delivered,

the system further comprising a delivery server connected to the main server via a network, the delivery server having:

an order-accepting unit for accepting an order for the

storage medium and/or goods;

a stock-managing unit for managing stock and a date of delivery for the ordered storage medium and/or goods and notifying the order-accepting unit of information on the stock and date of delivery; and

a delivery unit for delivering the ordered storage medium and/or goods to a place designated by the processor of the main server in response to the information sent from the order-accepting unit.

9. The digital content-data distribution system according to claim 1, wherein the main server has a copyright-information adder for adding copyright-information to the digital content data,

the system further comprising:

a sub-server, connected to the main server via a network, for receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server; and

a sub-terminal for receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server or the sub-server,

wherein the sub-server includes:

a first receiver for receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server;

a first copyright-information manager for deciding whether or not the digital content data received by the first receiver has been added the copyright-information; and

a first copyright-information deleter for deleting the digital content data or making the digital content data as un-reproducible when a duplicate of the digital content data is stored in a memory of the sub-server the order terminal,

wherein the sub-terminal includes:

a second receiver for receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server or the sub-server;

a second copyright-information manager for deciding whether or not the digital content data received by the second receiver has been added the copyright-information;

a reproducer for reproducing the digital content data only when the digital content data has been decided as being added

the copyright-information; and

a second copyright-information deleter for deleting the digital content data or making the digital content data as un-reproducible when a duplicate of the digital content data is stored in the memory of the sub-server or the order terminal.

10.   A digital content-data distribution system comprising:

an order terminal for downloading digital content data when a user places an order for the digital content data via the order terminal; and

a main server for transmitting the ordered digital content data in response to the order placement via the order terminal,

wherein the main server includes:

a memory for storing N (an integer of two or more) number of digital content data having the same contents but different from each other on compression ratio and/or data format;

an order-accepting unit for accepting the order placement for the digital content data;

a data-retrieving unit, responsive to the order placement, for retrieving the N number of digital content data from the memory and forming a set of the N number of digital content data or retrieving a set of the N number of digital content data from the memory;

a data-receiver designating unit for designating a receiver for receiving the set of the N number of digital content data;

a media-selecting unit for selecting package media and/or downloadable digital-data media for obtaining the ordered set of the N number of digital content data; and

a transmitter for transmitting one or more of the N number of digital content data as the downloadable digital-data media to the order terminal or a sub-terminal when designated as the receiver,

the order terminal includes:

an order-placing unit for placing an order for the package media and/or the downloadable digital-data media to the main server; and

a receiver for receiving the downloadable digital-data

media,

the system further comprises a delivery server connected to the main server via a network, the delivery server having:

a communications unit for receiving an order placement from the main server;

an order-accepting unit for accepting an order for the storage media;

a stock-managing unit for managing stock and a date of delivery for the ordered storage media and notifying the order-accepting unit of information on the stock and date of delivery; and

a delivery unit for delivering the ordered storage media to a place designated the order-accepting unit, and

the sub-terminal being connected to the main server via the network, having a receiver for receiving the downloadable digital-data media.

11.   The digital content-data distribution system according to claim 10, wherein the main server further includes:

a memory for storing a player database of names of players for reproducing the digital content data and data formats reproducible by the players;

a data-format retrieving unit for retrieving reproducible data formats based on the names of the players;

a communications unit for transmitting information on the retrieved reproducible data formats to the order terminal or the sub-terminal,

wherein the order terminal and the sub-terminal include:

an entry unit for entering a name of a player for reproducing the digital content data;

a communications unit for transmitting the name of the player to the main server and receiving the information on the retrieved reproducible data formats; and

a display unit for displaying the information on the retrieved reproducible data formats.

12.   The digital content-data distribution system according to

claim 10, wherein the main server has a copyright-information adder for adding copyright-information to the digital content data,

the system further comprising:

a sub-server, connected to the main server via a network, for receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server; and

a sub-terminal for receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server or the sub-server,

wherein the sub-server includes:

a first receiver for receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server;

a first copyright-information manager for deciding whether or not the digital content data received by the first receiver has been added the copyright-information; and

a first copyright-information deleter for deleting the digital content data or making the digital content data as un-reproducible when a duplicate of the digital content data is stored in a memory of the sub-server the order terminal,

wherein the sub-terminal includes:

a second receiver for receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server or the sub-server;

a second copyright-information manager for deciding whether or not the digital content data received by the second receiver has been added the copyright-information;

a reproducer for reproducing the digital content data only when the digital content data has been decided as being added the copyright-information; and

a second copyright-information deleter for deleting the digital content data or making the digital content data as un-reproducible when a duplicate of the digital content data is stored in the memory of the sub-server or the order terminal.

13.   A method of distributing digital content data via communications between an order terminal and a main server comprising the steps of:

deciding whether digital content data be downloaded when

a user places an order or later in accordance with a user request and/or capacity of a user memory for storing the digital content data;

transmitting the ordered digital content data from the main server to the order terminal when the user places an order or later in accordance with the decision; and

downloading the transmitted digital content to the order terminal.

14. The method of distributing digital content data according to claim 13 further comprising the step of downloading the ordered digital content data to the order terminal for downloading at the order placement whereas to the order terminal or a sub-terminal for downloading later.

15. The method of distributing digital content data according to claim 13 further comprising the step of downloading the ordered digital content data to the user memory at the order placement while transferring digital content data already stored in the user memory to a memory of the main server when the user memory lacks capacity for the data to be downloaded.

16. The method of distributing digital content data according to claim 13 further comprising the step of displaying only data formats reproducible by the order terminal for the ordered digital content data in several data formats.

17. The method of distributing digital content data according to claim 13 further comprising the step of deciding a format of the ordered digital content data in response to entry of a name of user player for reproducing the ordered digital content data.

18. The method of distributing digital content data according to claim 13 further comprising the step of:

designating a place to which a storage medium storing the ordered digital content data and/or goods related to the ordered digital content data are/is to be delivered;

accepting an order for the storage medium and/or goods;

managing stock and a date of delivery for the ordered storage medium and/or goods;

notifying information on the stock and date of delivery; and

delivering the ordered storage medium and/or goods to the designated place in response to the information.

19.   The method of distributing digital content data according to claim 13, wherein the main server is connected to a sub-server via a network, the digital content data being also downloadable to a sub-terminal from the main server or the sub-server, the method further comprising the steps of:

adding copyright-information to the digital content data;

at the sub-server side,

receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server;

deciding whether or not the received digital content data has been added the copyright-information; and

deleting the digital content data or making the digital content data as un-reproducible when a duplicate of the digital content data is stored in a memory of the sub-server or the order terminal, and

at the sub-terminal side,

receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server or the sub-server;

deciding whether or not the received digital content data has been added the copyright-information;

reproducing the digital content data only when the digital content data has been decided as being added the copyright-information; and

deleting the digital content data or making the digital content data as un-reproducible when a duplicate of the digital content data is stored in the memory of the sub-server or the order terminal.

20.   A method of distributing digital content data via communications between an order terminal and a main server

comprising the steps of:

storing N (an integer of two or more) number of digital content data having the same contents but different from each other on compression ratio and/or data format in a memory;

accepting an order placement for the digital content data;

retrieving the N number of digital content data from the memory in response to the order placement to form a set of the N number of digital content data or retrieve a set of the N number of digital content data from the memory;

designating a receiver for receiving the set of the N number of digital content data; and

transmitting one or more of the N number of digital content data to the order terminal or a sub-terminal when designated as the receiver.

21. The method of distributing digital content data according to claim 20 further comprising the steps of:

selecting package media and/or downloadable digital-data media for obtaining the ordered set of the N number of digital content data;

placing an order for the package media and/or the downloadable digital-data media to the main server;

transmitting one or more of the N number of digital content data as the downloadable digital-data media to the order terminal or the sub-terminal when designated as the receiver;

accepting an order for the storage media;

managing stock and a date of delivery for the ordered storage media;

notifying information on the stock and date of delivery; and

delivering the ordered storage media to a place designated the order-accepting unit.

22. The method of distributing digital content data according to claim 20 further comprising the steps of:

storing a player database of names of players for reproducing the digital content data and data formats reproducible by the

players;

retrieving reproducible data formats based on the names of the players;

transmitting information on the retrieved reproducible data formats to the order terminal or the sub-terminal,

entering a name of a player for reproducing the digital content data;

transmitting the name of the player to the main server and receiving the information on the retrieved reproducible data formats; and

displaying the information on the retrieved reproducible data formats.

23.   The method of distributing digital content data according to claim 20, wherein the main server is connected to a sub-server via a network, the digital content data being also downloadable to a sub-terminal from the main server or the sub-server, the method further comprising the steps of:

adding copyright-information to the digital content data;

at the sub-server side,

receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server;

deciding whether or not the received digital content data has been added the copyright-information; and

deleting the digital content data or making the digital content data as un-reproducible when a duplicate of the digital content data is stored in a memory of the sub-server or the order terminal, and

at the sub-terminal side,

receiving the digital content data transmitted from the main server or the sub-server;

deciding whether or not the received digital content data has been added the copyright-information;

reproducing the digital content data only when the digital content data has been decided as being added the copyright-information; and

deleting the digital content data or making the digital

content data as un-reproducible when a duplicate of the digital content data is stored in the memory of the sub-server or the order terminal.